



Sheet 1 of 15

Form PTO-116

DOCKET NO: D-3026 CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
BS	5	0	7	4	8	4	1		12/91	ADEMOVIC ET AL.			
	5	0	8	5	2	2	3		2/92	LARS ET AL.			
	5	1	1	3	8	6	8		5/92	WISE ET AL.			
	5	1	9	5	3	7	5		3/93	TENERZ ET AL.			
	5	2	0	7	1	0	2		5/93	TAKAHASHI ET AL.			
	5	2	2	6	4	2	3		7/93	TENERZ ET AL.			
	5	2	6	9	7	8	5		12/93	BONUTTI			
	5	2	9	0	3	0	3		3/94	PINGLETON ET AL.			
	5	3	1	3	9	5	7		5/94	LITTLE			
	5	3	2	0	6	2	7		6/94	SORENSEN ET AL.			
BS	5	3	7	3	8	5	2		12/94	HARRISON ET AL.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER									COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
													YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

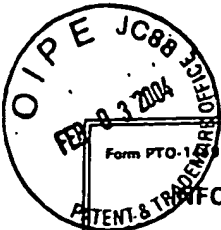
EXAMINER

Brian Samuel

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Sheet 2 of 15

Form PTO-151

PATENT INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026 CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Dflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
B	R	E	3	3	2	5	8		7/90	ONIK ET AL.			
	1	4	9	3	2	4	0		5/24	F.J. BOHN			
	2	5	3	2	3	7	0		12/50	H.K. PERRILL			
	3	3	0	8	8	2	8		3/67	C.C. PIPPIN			
	3	5	5	0	5	8	3		12/70	CHIKU			
	3	5	5	3	6	2	5		1/71	C.K. STEDMAN			
	3	5	9	0	8	0	8		7/71	MULLER			
	3	7	1	0	7	8	1		1/73	HUTCHINS IV ET AL.			
	3	9	3	8	3	7	9		2/78	BINGHAM			
	4	0	2	3	5	6	2		5/77	HYNECEK ET AL.			
B	4	1	6	7	9	4	4		9/79	BANKO			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER									COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
													YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER

Brown

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Sheet 3 of 15

Form PTO-1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026CON

APPL. NO.: 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
BS	4	2	1	0	0	2	9	7/80	PORTER			
	4	2	7	4	4	2	3	6/81	MIZUNO ET AL.			
	4	3	9	3	8	7	8	7/83	KAHN			
	4	6	4	9	9	1	9	3/87	THIMSEN ET AL.			
	4	7	2	2	3	4	8	2/88	LIGTENBERG ET AL.			
	4	8	4	4	0	8	4	7/89	THIMSEN ET AL.			
	4	8	7	8	8	9	8	11/89	GRIFFIN ET AL.			
	4	9	0	1	7	3	1	2/90	MILLAR			
	4	9	2	4	8	7	7	5/90	BROOKS			
	5	0	1	8	5	2	9	5/91	TENERZ ET AL.			
BS	5	0	6	7	4	9	1	11/91	TAYLOR II ET AL.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER

Brown Samuel

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

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Sheet 4 of 15

Form PTO-151
PATENTINFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026 CON

APPL. NO.: 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
B	5	3	8	3	8	8	4		1/95	SUMMERS			
	5	4	1	2	9	9	4		5/95	COOK ET AL.			
	5	4	3	3	2	1	6		7/95	SUGRUE ET AL.			
	5	4	5	0	8	5	3		9/95	HASTINGS ET AL.			
	5	4	7	4	0	8	6		12/95	MCCORMICK ET AL.			
	5	5	2	6	8	2	2		6/96	BURBANK ET AL.			
	5	5	6	9	2	8	4		10/96	YOUNG ET AL.			
	5	6	1	8	2	9	6		4/97	SORENSEN ET AL.			
	5	8	2	8	7	4	8		5/97	VICARI			
	5	6	3	7	0	7	6		6/97	HAZARD ET AL.			
B	5	8	6	2	1	2	2		9/97	EVANS			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER									DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
														YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

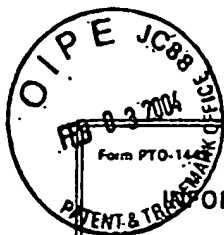
EXAMINER

Brian Sand

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

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Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Sheet 5 of 15

Form PTO-142

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
BS	5	6	8	5	8	4	0	11/97	SCHECHTER ET AL.			
	5	6	9	3	0	1	1	12/97	ONIK			
	5	6	9	4	9	4	6	12/97	TENERZ ET AL.			
	5	7	1	5	8	2	7	2/98	CORL ET AL.			
	5	7	4	1	2	8	7	4/98	ALDEN ET AL.			
	5	7	6	2	0	7	3	6/98	CHOY			
	5	7	6	6	1	9	4	6/98	SMITH			
	5	7	7	2	6	2	7	6/98	ACOSTA ET AL.			
	5	8	0	7	2	6	5	9/98	ITOIGAWA			
	5	8	3	6	8	8	6	11/98	ITOIGAWA			
BS	5	8	5	7	9	9	5	1/99	THOMAS ET AL.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

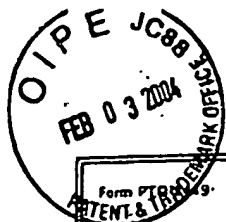
EXAMINER

Brian Sand

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Sheet 6 of 15

Form PTO-9
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026 CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
BS	5	9	0	2	2	4	8	5/99	MILLAR ET AL.			
	5	9	1	6	1	7	5	6/99	BAUER			
	5	9	2	5	0	5	6	7/99	THOMAS ET AL.			
	5	9	3	5	1	3	1	8/99	BONUTTI			
	5	9	6	8	0	6	2	10/99	THOMAS ET AL.			
	5	9	7	6	1	0	5	11/99	MARCOVE ET AL.			
	5	9	7	6	1	6	4	11/99	BENCINI ET AL.			
	6	0	0	0	3	9	9	12/99	CHOY			
	6	0	0	1	1	1	2	12/99	TAYLOR			
	6	0	1	7	3	1	6	1/00	RICHART ET AL.			
BS	6	0	1	9	7	2	8	2/00	IWATA ET AL.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

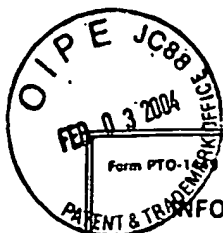
EXAMINER

Brian Small

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

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Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Form PTO-100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER								DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
ES	6	0	1	9	7	2	9		2/00	ITOIGAWA ET AL.			
	6	0	6	6	1	5	3		5/00	LEV			
	6	0	7	7	2	3	0		6/00	GREGOIRE ET AL.			
	6	0	8	3	1	7	9		7/00	OREDSSON			
	6	1	2	0	4	5	7		9/00	COOMBES ET AL.			
	6	1	4	2	9	5	5		11/00	FARASCIONI ET AL.			
	6	1	5	6	0	4	6		12/00	PASSAFARO ET AL.			
	6	1	7	4	3	1	3		1/01	BONUTTI			
	6	2	3	1	5	2	2		5/01	VOEGELE ET AL.			
	6	2	4	5	0	2	8		6/01	FURST ET AL.			
ES	6	2	5	4	5	5	3		7/01	LIDGREN ET AL.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER									COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
													YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER

Brian Szwed

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Sheet 8 of 15

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**
(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO D-3026 con

APPLN. NO. 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
B OIP E 03/2004 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE	R	E	3	4	0	5	6	09/08/92	Lindgren et al.			
	3	4	7	7	4	2	3	11/11/69	Griffith			
	6	0	0	0	1	4		07/15/86	Beraha			
	6	9	9	1	5	4		10/13/87	Lindgren			
	9	5	8	6	2	5		09/25/90	Bates et al.			
	5	0	8	4	0	5	2	1/28/92	Jacobs			
	5	1	8	3	0	5	4	02/02/93	Burkholder et al.			
	5	2	3	4	0	0	0	08/10/93	Hakky et al.			
B	5	4	2	3	7	9	9	6/13/95	Shiu			
	5	5	9	1	1	8	7	01/07/97	Dakel			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER

Brian Smedley

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Sheet

10 of 15

Docket Number: D-3026 CON

Application Number: 10/667,768

Applicant: Pflueger

Filing Date: 9/22/03

Group Art Unit: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS.

[illegible]

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Erin Sward

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667 768

APPLICANT: PS Luenger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER

Ben Smedley

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026 CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
JCH	5	2	3	8	0	0	4	08/1993	Sahatjian et al.			
JCH	5	3	2	7	9	0	5	07/1994	Avital			
JCH	5	7	1	1	4	7		11/1996	Sluiter et al.			
JCH	6	1	9	9	9	3		04/1997	Lee			
JCH	6	8	1	2	8	2		10/1997	Eggers et al.			
JCH	5	7	2	2	4	0	1	03/1998	Pietroski et al.			
JCH	5	8	2	6	5	7	6	10/1998	West			
JCH	5	8	4	3	0	1	9	12/1998	Eggers et al.			
JCH	5	9	0	8	4	4	6	06/1999	Imran			
JCH	5	9	9	7	5	3	6	12/1999	Osswald et al.			
JCH	6	0	0	7	5	7	0	12/1999	Sharkey et al.			
JCH	6	0	4	5	5	3	2	04/2000	Eggers et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

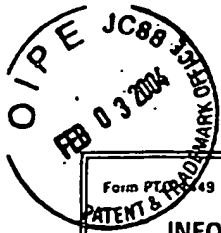
EXAMINER

Robert Samuel

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Form PTO-449
PATENT & TRADEMARK

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**
(Use several sheets if necessary)

DOCKET NO: D-3026CON	APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768
APPLICANT: Pflueger	
FILED DATE: 9/22/03	GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE
BS	6	0	9	9	5	1	4	08/2000	Sherkey et al.			
	6	1	2	2	5	4	9	09/2000	Sherkey et al.			
	6	1	2	6	6	8	2	10/2000	Sherkey et al.			
	6	1	6	8	5	9	3	01/2001	Sherkey et al.			
	6	2	0	3	5	4	2	03/2001	Ellsberry et al.			
	6	2	7	3	8	6	1	08/2001	Bates et al.			
	5	4	3	3	7	3	9	07/1995	Sluiter et al.			
	5	7	8	5	7	0	5	07/1998	Baker			
	5	9	8	0	5	0	4	11/1999	Sherkey et al.			
	6	0	7	3	0	5	1	06/2000	Sherkey et al.			
	6	0	9	5	1	4	9	08/2000	Sherkey et al.			
	6	1	9	0	3	8	1	02/2001	Gison et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

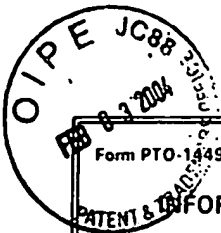
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

BS		Sato et al., "In Vivo Intradiscal Pressure Measurement in Healthy Individuals and in Patients with Ongoing Back Problems", Dept. of Orthopaedic Surg., Fukushima Med. University, School of Medicine and the Dept. of Orthopaedic Surg., Osaka Med. College, Japan.

EXAMINER B. M. Senechal	DATE CONSIDERED: 1-25-06
--------------------------------	---------------------------------

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Form PTO-1449

DOCKET NO: D-3026 CON

APPLN. NO.: 10/667,768

PATENT & INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT: Pflueger

FILING DATE: 9/22/03

GROUP ART: 3736

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

BS	Choy et al., "B. Fall of Intradiscal Pressure with Laser Ablation", <u>J. Clin. Laser Med. & Surg.</u> , Vol. 13, No. 3, 1995, Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., pp. 149-151.
	Case et al., "Change of intradisc pressure versus volume change", <u>J. Clin. Laser Med. Surg.</u> , June 1995, Vol. 13(3), pp. 143-147.
	Cripton et al., "A minimally disruptive technique for measuring intervertebral disc pressure in vitro: application to the cervical spine", <u>J. Biomech.</u> , April 2001, Vol. 34(4), 545-549.
	Wilke et al., "New in vivo measurements of pressures in the intervertebral disc in daily life", <u>Spine</u> , April 1999, Vol. 15:24(8), pp. 755-762.
	McNally et al., "Development and validation of a new transducer for intradiscal pressure measurement", <u>J. Biomed. Eng.</u> , Nov. 1992, Vol. 14(6), pp. 495-498.
	Panjabi et al., "Intrinsic disc pressure as a measurement of integrity of the lumbar spine", <u>Spine</u> , Aug. 1988, Vol. 13(8), pp. 913-917.
	"Predictive Pressure Controlled Discography", www.spinaldiagnostics.com/predpressure.htm , and www.spinaldiagnostics.com/predtables.htm .
	Cripton et al., "A Novel Technique for Measuring in Vitro Pressure in Cervical Intervertebral Discs", <u>Dept. of Mech. Eng., Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, and Müller Inst. for Biomech., University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland.</u>
	Steffen et al., "Multilocalized Intradiscal Pressure Measurements in the Cadaveric Lumbar Spine".
BS	Gudavalli et al., "Funded Basic Sciences Research: What Happens During Distraction Manipulation? Disc Pressure Changes", <u>National College of Chiropractic, Lombard, IL, and Loyola University Chicago, Maywood, IL, Abstract from the Proceedings of the International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine (Singapore, 1998)",</u>

EXAMINER

Brian Small

DATE CONSIDERED:

1-25-06

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Form 150-1049 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket No.: D-3026CON		Application No.: 10/667,768		
		Applicant: Pflueger				
		Filing Date: 9/22/03		Group Art Unit: 3736		
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
PB	2,526,662	10/1950	Hipps et al.			
	3,732,858	05/1973	Banko			
	3,735,751	05/1973	Katz			
	4,461,305	07/1984	Cibley			
	4,979,939	12/1990	Shiber			
	5,002,553	03/1991	Shiber			
	5,759,185	06/1998	Grinberg			
	5,916,229	06/1999	Evans			
	6,162,214	12/2000	Mueller et al.			
PB	6,325,806	12/2001	Fox			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
PB	AA	Office Action dated May 28, 2004, Patent Application No. 10/093,775, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3034.				
	AB	Office Action dated November 24, 2004, Patent Application No. 10/093,775, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3034.				
	AC	Advisory Action dated February 11, 2005, Patent Application No. 10/093,775, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3034.				
	AD	Office Action dated February 5, 2004, Patent Application No. 10/093,774, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3039.				
	AE	Office Action dated March 15, 2004, Patent Application No. 10/093,774, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3039.				
	AF	Office Action dated September 30, 2004, Patent Application No. 10/093,774, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3039.				
	AG	Advisory Action dated December 15, 2004, Patent Application No. 10/093,774, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3039.				
PB	AH	Office Action dated January 26, 2005, Patent Application No. 10/093,774, filed 3/8/02, our Docket No. D-3039.				
EXAMINER <i>Brian Samuel</i>			DATE CONSIDERED <i>1-25-06</i>			
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.						

